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MEMORIAL

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE LATE TEXAS NAVY,

TO THE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

JANUARY, 1850.

WASHINGTON.

T. BARNARD, PRINTER.

1850.

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MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The undersigned, being the surviving officers of the Navy of the late Republic of Texas; most respectfully represent to your Honorable body, that under the provisions of the "Joint Resolutions" passed and approved on the 1st of March, 1845, inviting the then Republic of Texas to become a member of this confederacy, there was a clause providing that the "Navy of Texas should be added to the Navy of the United States."

By the construction however, that was put upon the terms of annexation, the officers of the Texas Navy who had served during her struggle for Independence—defended her sea coast and protected her commerce successfully for several years, against fearful odds; were, as they humbly conceive, deprived of their just rights by not being incorporated into the Navy of the United States, on the consummation of annexation and the transfer of the vessels of the Navy of Texas, to the Navy of the United States.

Instead of being thus transferred, as they confidently expected and believed they would be, under a just and liberal construction of the terms of annexation, and from the "fair promises" made by the Chargé d'Affaires from this Government to the Republic of Texas during the progress of annexation; after the consummation of that measure, and some of us being retained in charge of the Texas Vessels of War *several months after the change of Flags;* we were relieved by officers of the United States Navy, and literally turned out of those vessels, which we can say without incuring the charge of egotion; that in the cause of our adopted country, we had fought successfully against odds, and under disadvantages unprecedented in the annals of history.

We believe that we are authorized in stating that but for the "fair promises" made by the Chargé d'Affaires from this government to that of Texas; and the urgent manner in which he assured the authorities thereof, "*that they might rely with confidence on the justice and magnanimity of the government of the United States, in relation to this and other matters growing out of, and pertaining to annexation,*" as well as the abiding confidence of the authorities and people of Texas that these pledges would have been fulfilled; there can be little doubt that an especial clause would have been provided by the Congress of the Repulic of Texas, for the few surviving officers of her Navy, whose services

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